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WILMERHALE / RED HAT, INC. 60 STATE STREET BOSTON, MA 02109			EXAMINER PATEL, ASHOKKUMAR B	
			ART UNIT 2154	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/624,445

Applicant(s)

COX, ALAN

Examiner

Ashok B. Patel

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 February 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1,4-7 and 9-17 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3,8 and 18-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-30 are subject to examination. 1, 4-7, and 9-17 are cancelled.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 02/05/2007 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 2, 3, 8 and 18-30 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection, however, Examiner would like to request to consider the teachings of the following prior arts since these prior arts teach "routing an electronic message intended for a first user to at least two approvers, wherein each of the at least two approvers can approve or reject the electronic message" and more in relation to the claimed limitations of claims 18 and 26.

- a. LU US 2002/0107950
- b. Gatz et al. (US 2002/0049806 A1)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

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5. Claims 2, 3, 8 and 18-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter, which was not described in the specification of this application under examination in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art to use and/or make the invention.

Referring to claim 18,

The specification of this application under examination does not contain subject matter to implement limitations, "notifying the at least one other approver of a changed status for the electronic message.", as cited in Claim 18. Examiner has reviewed the specification of this application under examination and could not find support for the additional limitations as claimed.

Examiner is interpreting this limitation as "sending any kind of indication of the rejection or approval."

Referring to claims 2, 3 and 19-24,

Claims 2, 3 and 19-24 are rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 18 as above, because of their dependency on claim 18.

Referring to claim 26,

The specification of this application under examination does not contain subject matter to implement limitations, "notifying the at least one other approver of a changed status for the electronic message.", as cited in Claim 26. Examiner has reviewed the specification of this application under examination and could not find support for the additional limitations as claimed.

Examiner is interpreting this limitation as "sending any kind of indication of the rejection or approval."

Referring to claims 8 and 27-30,

Claims 8 and 27-30 are rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 26 as above, because of their dependency on claim 26.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless-

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 2, 3, 8 and 18-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mastrianni (US 2002/0116641 A1).

Referring to claim 18,

Mastrianni teaches a method for operating an electronic messaging system (Fig.

3) comprising:

routing an electronic message intended for a first user to at least two approvers (col. 5, line 6-36, "The filter definitions 306 may be configured such that the semantic engine 304 may be the recipients ID is used to match or reject certain topics based on their user ID. For example, the invention can be configured to accept messages for John that include references to online gambling, but to filter messages for Sally that

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contain the same type of topics. This allows parents, for instance, to limit the content in e-mail directed toward a child's account, while allowing the message to be delivered to an adult. As another example, parents could elect to block all messages that come from the amazon.com domain from reaching a child's account, but allow those message to be sent to those accounts that are configured to receive them.

Another feature provided by the present invention is the ability to capture any attached files such as graphics, video, or audio, and automatically route them to a parent or employer for review. The e-mail recipient can see that an attachment has arrived but can't gain access to it until the parent or employer "clears" the file for viewing. Once cleared, the e-mail recipient is free to access the attachment normally.

Depending on certain settings, the invention will attempt to determine if the attachment contains objectionable material by scanning the attached file and file header information for embedded content such as file names, URLs, or other identifiers that contain any objectionable phrases or words. If found, the attachment is marked as "possible objectionable material" and forwarded to a parent or system administrator disposition." Note: two approvers "semantic Engine" and " a parent", Examiner understands, as claim recites "Approvers" means the functionality for "approve" or "reject"), wherein each of the at least two approvers can approve or reject the electronic message (col. 4, line 45-53, "The Semantic Engine 304 can be configured to Automatic Mode, leaving the decision of that what action to be taken up to the invention. The Semantic engine 304 "learns" by keeping track of the number of offending e-mail message IDs, domains, and relays, and uses that information to automatically filter

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offending e-mail messages without any operator intervention. It saves the historical data in a database 312 and refers to database 312 each time a new message arrives.", col. 5, line 19-27, "Another feature provided by the present invention is the ability to capture any attached files such as graphics, video, or audio, and automatically route them to a parent or employer for review. The e-mail recipient can see that an attachment has arrived but can't gain access to it until the parent or employer "clears" the file for viewing. Once cleared, the e-mail recipient is free to access the attachment normally.");

presenting the electronic message on a display to at least one of the approvers for approval or rejection col. 5, line 19-27, "Another feature provided by the present invention is the ability to capture any attached files such as graphics, video, or audio, and automatically route them to a parent or employer for review. The e-mail recipient can see that an attachment has arrived but can't gain access to it until the parent or employer "clears" the file for viewing. Once cleared, the e-mail recipient is free to access the attachment normally.");

determining whether the electronic message is approved or rejected by applying a predetermined policy toward approval or rejection actions by the at least one of the approvers presented with the electronic message (col. 3, line 42-58, "The user configures the present invention by choosing from a list of topics and actions to perform using the touch screen 206. For example, if the user does not wish to be informed about gambling or casinos (a frequent source of junk mail), they can select the topic and choose the action to be performed: delete, forward, or save.

If the delete option is selected, any e-mail for that particular user that contains the matching content will be immediately deleted.

If the user selects save, the e-mail is saved normally and no action is taken.

If the user chooses the forward option, the mail can be automatically forwarded to a specified e-mail address.

If the user chooses SPAM, the e-mail is automatically forwarded to the administrator of the offending server, relay server, and ISP for disposition, and the mail deleted.");

routing the electronic message to the first user if the electronic message is approved (col. 4, line 26-30, "A parental or manager function allows e-mail to be scanned per user or globally on the system. This allows, for example, a parent to configure the e-mail system not to accept messages with the word "sex" in them, or to delete all mail for a particular user."); and

once the electronic message is approved or rejected by one approver, notifying the at least one other approver of a changed status for the electronic message (col. 4, line 9-14, Depending on the context of the received e-mail, the Semantic Engine 304 will attempt to identify the topic of the e-mail message and will suggest an action from a list of pre-loaded actions and previously performed actions. The actions are presented to the user in a scrollable form and selected by the user's finger on the touch screen display 206.", col. 4, line 58-63, "For example, a parent can have any offensive e-mail messages for their children forwarded to their account for review. Even if the message is deemed acceptable and has no offending content, parents or managers can have a

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copy of the received e-mail forwarded automatically to them.”, col. 5, line 36-45, “For example, a parent can have any offensive e-mail messages for their children forwarded to their account for review. Even if the message is deemed acceptable and has no offending content, parents or managers can have a copy of the received e-mail forwarded automatically to them.”)

Referring to claim 19,

Mastrianni teaches the method of claim 18, wherein, in accordance with the predetermined policy, the electronic message is approved or rejected when either one of the at least two approvers first approves or rejects the electronic message (col. 6, line 44-48, “If the e-mail is not from an objectionable source, the semantic engine then determines whether the e-mail contains objectionable words or phrases (step 512). If the e-mail does contain objectionable words or phrases, then the e-mail is deleted (step 514).”).

Referring to claim 20,

Mastrianni teaches the method of claim 19, wherein, once the electronic message is approved or rejected by either one of the at least two approvers, the other at least one approver will no longer be presented with the electronic message. (col. 6, line 54-62, If the e-mail does not contain objectionable content, the semantic engine next determines whether the e-mail contains an indication that it should be routed to a particular user or department (step 516). If the e-mail does contain an indication that it should be forwarded, then the e-mail is forwarded to the appropriate user (step 518) based on information from within the e-mail. For example, if the e-mail contains a

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resume, then the e-mail is forwarded to the human resources department of the organization.”)

Referring to claim 21,

Mastrianni teaches the method of claim 18, wherein, in accordance with the predetermined policy, the electronic message is approved when both of the at least two approvers approve the electronic message (col. 5, line 19-27, “Another feature provided by the present invention is the ability to capture any attached files such as graphics, video, or audio, and automatically route them to a parent or employer for review. The e-mail recipient can see that an attachment has arrived but can't gain access to it until the parent or employer “clears” the file for viewing. Once cleared, the e-mail recipient is free to access the attachment normally.” Depending on certain settings, the invention will attempt to determine if the attachment contains objectionable material by scanning the attached file and file header information for embedded content such as file names, URLs, or other identifiers that contain any objectionable phrases or words. If found, the attachment is marked as “possible objectionable material” and forwarded to a parent or system administrator disposition.”); , and rejected when either one of the at least two approvers rejects the electronic message (col. 6, line 44-48, “If the e-mail is not from an objectionable source, the semantic engine then determines whether the e-mail contains objectionable words or phrases (step 512). If the e-mail does contain objectionable words or phrases, then the e-mail is deleted (step 514).”).

Referring to claim 2,

Mastrianni teaches the method of claim 18, further comprising applying a filter to the electronic message, such that the electronic message is approved if the electronic message passes the filter (col. 5, line 6-36, "The filter definitions 306 may be configured such that the semantic engine 304 may be the recipients ID is used to match or reject certain topics based on their user ID. For example, the invention can be configured to accept messages for John that include references to online gambling, but to filter messages for Sally that contain the same type of topics. This allows parents, for instance, to limit the content in e-mail directed toward a child's account, while allowing the message to be delivered to an adult. As another example, parents could elect to block all messages that come from the amazon.com domain from reaching a child's account, but allow those message to be sent to those accounts that are configured to receive them.")

Referring to claim 3,

Mastrianni teaches the method of claim 18, further comprising applying a filter to the electronic message, such that the electronic message is rejected if the electronic message passes the filter (col. 5, line 6-36, "The filter definitions 306 may be configured such that the semantic engine 304 may be the recipients ID is used to match or reject certain topics based on their user ID. For example, the invention can be configured to accept messages for John that include references to online gambling, but to filter messages for Sally that contain the same type of topics. This allows parents, for instance, to limit the content in e-mail directed toward a child's account, while allowing the message to be delivered to an adult. As another example, parents could elect to

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block all messages that come from the amazon.com domain from reaching a child's account, but allow those message to be sent to those accounts that are configured to receive them.”)

Referring to claim 8,

Mastrianni teaches the method of claim 26, further comprising, if delivery of the electronic message to the intended recipient is approved, sending a notification to the first user (col. 3, line 42-58, “The user configures the present invention by choosing from a list of topics and actions to perform using the touch screen 206. For example, if the user does not wish to be informed about gambling or casinos (a frequent source of junk mail), they can select the topic and choose the action to be performed: delete, forward, or save.

If the delete option is selected, any e-mail for that particular user that contains the matching content will be immediately deleted.

If the user selects save, the e-mail is saved normally and no action is taken.

If the user chooses the forward option, the mail can be automatically forwarded to a specified e-mail address.”)

Referring to claim 22,

Mastrianni teaches the method of claim 18, wherein the electronic message is routed to the at least two approvers by being routed to a single folder (col. 3, line 42-50, “E-mail received from a network mail server through network connection 302 passes through semantic engine 304 which, if configured to filter e-mail messages, analyzes the e-mail using filter definitions 306 and then saves, deletes, or forwards the e-mail

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based on matches or lack of matches between the e-mail and the filter definitions. E-mail that is to be stored for presentation to a user is stored in mail storage 308 from which a user may retrieve the e-mail through user input/output (I/O) 310.”), accessible by the at least two approvers from multiple devices at multiple locations (col. 7, line 18-24, For example, while the exemplary implementation above has been described with regard to a portable computing device (e.g., a laptop computer), other devices such as personal data assistants (PDAs), Palm Pilots, portable telephones, products such as MobilePro produced by Sharp Corporation, etc. will find equal benefit with the features of the present invention.”, col. 2, line 67-col. 3, line 12, “The Internet appliance 200 may be installed in a reasonable proximity to the user, preferably mounted flush to the wall or embodied in some other type of appliance such as a refrigerator, a stove, or any other common home appliance. The Internet appliance 200 described herein generally has no exposed keyboard or mouse, and relies on a touch screen 206, speakers 202, microphone 203, display 206, digital camera 201 and optional network connection 208 input and output. The absence of a touch screen 206, speakers 202, microphone 203, or digital camera 201 does not affect the fundamental operation of the present invention, but only affects the way data may be input or output.”)

Referring to claim 23,

Mastrianni teaches the method of claim 18, wherein the electronic message is routed to the first user upon by being routed to a folder, accessible by the first user from multiple devices at multiple locations(col. 7, line 18-24, For example, while the exemplary implementation above has been described with regard to a portable

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computing device (e.g., a laptop computer), other devices such as personal data assistants (PDAs), Palm Pilots, portable telephones, products such as MobilePro produced by Sharp Corporation, etc. will find equal benefit with the features of the present invention.", col. 2, line 67-col. 3, line 12, "The Internet appliance 200 may be installed in a reasonable proximity to the user, preferably mounted flush to the wall or embodied in some other type of appliance such as a refrigerator, a stove, or any other common home appliance. The Internet appliance 200 described herein generally has no exposed keyboard or mouse, and relies on a touch screen 206, speakers 202, microphone 203, display 206, digital camera 201 and optional network connection 208 input and output. The absence of a touch screen 206, speakers 202, microphone 203, or digital camera 201 does not affect the fundamental operation of the present invention, but only affects the way data may be input or output.").

Referring to claim 24,

Mastrianni teaches the method of claim 18, wherein the electronic message is deleted upon rejection in accordance with the predetermined policy (col. 3, line 42-58, "The user configures the present invention by choosing from a list of topics and actions to perform using the touch screen 206. For example, if the user does not wish to be informed about gambling or casinos (a frequent source of junk mail), they can select the topic and choose the action to be performed: delete, forward, or save.

If the delete option is selected, any e-mail for that particular user that contains the matching content will be immediately deleted.")

Referring to claim 25,

Mastrianni teaches the method of claim 18, wherein the electronic message is archived at a location that is inaccessible to the first user upon rejection in accordance with the predetermined policy (col. 3, line 42-58, "The user configures the present invention by choosing from a list of topics and actions to perform using the touch screen 206. For example, if the user does not wish to be informed about gambling or casinos (a frequent source of junk mail), they can select the topic and choose the action to be performed: delete, forward, or save.

If the delete option is selected, any e-mail for that particular user that contains the matching content will be immediately deleted.

If the user selects save, the e-mail is saved normally and no action is taken. ")

Referring to claim 26,

Mastrianni teaches a method for operating an electronic messaging system (Fig. 3) comprising:

directing an outgoing electronic message having an intended recipient sent by a first user (col. 3, line 42-50, "E-mail received from a network mail server through network connection 302 passes through semantic engine 304 which, if configured to filter e-mail messages, analyzes the e-mail using filter definitions 306 and then saves, deletes, or forwards the e-mail based on matches or lack of matches between the e-mail and the filter definitions. E-mail that is to be stored for presentation to a user is stored in mail storage 308 from which a user may retrieve the e-mail through user

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input/output (I/O) 310.”) to at least two approvers(col. 5, line 6-36, “The filter definitions 306 may be configured such that the semantic engine 304 may be the recipients ID is used to match or reject certain topics based on their user ID. For example, the invention can be configured to accept messages for John that include references to online gambling, but to filter messages for Sally that contain the same type of topics. This allows parents, for instance, to limit the content in e-mail directed toward a child's account, while allowing the message to be delivered to an adult. As another example, parents could elect to block all messages that come from the amazon.com domain from reaching a child's account, but allow those message to be sent to those accounts that are configured to receive them.

Another feature provided by the present invention is the ability to capture any attached files such as graphics, video, or audio, and automatically route them to a parent or employer for review. The e-mail recipient can see that an attachment has arrived but can't gain access to it until the parent or employer "clears" the file for viewing. Once cleared, the e-mail recipient is free to access the attachment normally.

Depending on certain settings, the invention will attempt to determine if the attachment contains objectionable material by scanning the attached file and file header information for embedded content such as file names, URLs, or other identifiers that contain any objectionable phrases or words. If found, the attachment is marked as "possible objectionable material" and forwarded to a parent or system administrator disposition.” Note: two approvers “semantic Engine” and “ a parent”, Examiner understands, as claim recites “Approvers” means the functionality for “approve” or

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"reject"), wherein each of the at least two approvers can approve or reject the electronic message (col. 4, line 45-53, "The Semantic Engine 304 can be configured to Automatic Mode, leaving the decision of that what action to be taken up to the invention. The Semantic engine 304 "learns" by keeping track of the number of offending e-mail message IDs, domains, and relays, and uses that information to automatically filter offending e-mail messages without any operator intervention. It saves the historical data in a database 312 and refers to database 312 each time a new message arrives.", col. 5, line 19-27, "Another feature provided by the present invention is the ability to capture any attached files such as graphics, video, or audio, and automatically route them to a parent or employer for review. The e-mail recipient can see that an attachment has arrived but can't gain access to it until the parent or employer "clears" the file for viewing. Once cleared, the e-mail recipient is free to access the attachment normally.");, wherein each of the at least two approvers can approve or reject the electronic message;

presenting the electronic message on a display to at least one of the approvers for approval or rejection col. 5, line 19-27, "Another feature provided by the present invention is the ability to capture any attached files such as graphics, video, or audio, and automatically route them to a parent or employer for review. The e-mail recipient can see that an attachment has arrived but can't gain access to it until the parent or employer "clears" the file for viewing. Once cleared, the e-mail recipient is free to access the attachment normally.");

determining whether the electronic message is approved or rejected by applying a predetermined policy toward approval or rejection actions by the at least one of the approvers presented with the electronic message (col. 3, line 42-58, "The user configures the present invention by choosing from a list of topics and actions to perform using the touch screen 206. For example, if the user does not wish to be informed about gambling or casinos (a frequent source of junk mail), they can select the topic and choose the action to be performed: delete, forward, or save.

If the delete option is selected, any e-mail for that particular user that contains the matching content will be immediately deleted.

If the user selects save, the e-mail is saved normally and no action is taken.

If the user chooses the forward option, the mail can be automatically forwarded to a specified e-mail address.

If the user chooses SPAM, the e-mail is automatically forwarded to the administrator of the offending server, relay server, and ISP for disposition, and the mail deleted.");

routing the electronic message to the recipient if the electronic message is approved; (col. 4, line 26-30, "A parental or manager function allows e-mail to be scanned per user or globally on the system. This allows, for example, a parent to configure the e-mail system not to accept messages with the word "sex" in them, or to delete all mail for a particular user."); and

once the electronic message is approved or rejected by one approver, notifying the at least one other approver of a changed status for the electronic message (col. 4,

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line 9-14, Depending on the context of the received e-mail, the Semantic Engine 304 will attempt to identify the topic of the e-mail message and will suggest an action from a list of pre-loaded actions and previously performed actions. The actions are presented to the user in a scrollable form and selected by the user's finger on the touch screen display 206.", col. 4, line 58-63, "For example, a parent can have any offensive e-mail messages for their children forwarded to their account for review. Even if the message is deemed acceptable and has no offending content, parents or managers can have a copy of the received e-mail forwarded automatically to them.", col. 5, line 36-45, "For example, a parent can have any offensive e-mail messages for their children forwarded to their account for review. Even if the message is deemed acceptable and has no offending content, parents or managers can have a copy of the received e-mail forwarded automatically to them.")

Referring to claim 27,

Mastrianni teaches the method of claim 26, wherein, in accordance with the predetermined policy, the electronic message is approved or rejected when either one of the at least two approvers first approves or rejects the electronic message. (col. 6, line 44-48, "If the e-mail is not from an objectionable source, the semantic engine then determines whether the e-mail contains objectionable words or phrases (step 512). If the e-mail does contain objectionable words or phrases, then the e-mail is deleted (step 514).").

Referring to claim 28,

Mastrianni teaches the method of claim 27, wherein, once the electronic message is approved or rejected by either one of the at least two approvers, the other at least one approver will no longer be presented with the electronic message(col. 6, line 54-62, If the e-mail does not contain objectionable content, the semantic engine next determines whether the e-mail contains an indication that is should be routed to a particular user or department (step 516). If the e-mail does contain an indication that it should be forwarded, then the e-mail is forwarded to the appropriate user (step 518) based on information from within the e-mail. For example, if the e-mail contains a resume, then the e-mail is forwarded to the human resources department of the organization.”)

Referring to claim 29,

Mastrianni teaches the method of claim 26, wherein, in accordance with the predetermined policy, the electronic message is approved when both of the at least two approvers approve it, (col. 5, line 19-27, “Another feature provided by the present invention is the ability to capture any attached files such as graphics, video, or audio, and automatically route them to a parent or employer for review. The e-mail recipient can see that an attachment has arrived but can't gain access to it until the parent or employer "clears" the file for viewing. Once cleared, the e-mail recipient is free to access the attachment normally.” Depending on certain settings, the invention will attempt to determine if the attachment contains objectionable material by scanning the attached file and file header information for embedded content such as file names, URLs, or other identifiers that contain any objectionable phrases or words. If found, the

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attachment is marked as "possible objectionable material" and forwarded to a parent or system administrator disposition."); , and rejected when either one of the at least two approvers rejects the electronic message (col. 6, line 44-48, "If the e-mail is not from an objectionable source, the semantic engine then determines whether the e-mail contains objectionable words or phrases (step 512). If the e-mail does contain objectionable words or phrases, then the e-mail is deleted (step 514).")

Referring to claim 30,

Mastrianni teaches the method of claim 26, wherein the electronic message is routed to the at least two approvers by being routed to a single folder (col. 3, line 42-50, "E-mail received from a network mail server through network connection 302 passes through semantic engine 304 which, if configured to filter e-mail messages, analyzes the e-mail using filter definitions 306 and then saves, deletes, or forwards the e-mail based on matches or lack of matches between the e-mail and the filter definitions. E-mail that is to be stored for presentation to a user is stored in mail storage 308 from which a user may retrieve the e-mail through user input/output (I/O) 310."), accessible by the at least two approvers from multiple devices at multiple locations (col. 7, line 18-24, For example, while the exemplary implementation above has been described with regard to a portable computing device (e.g., a laptop computer), other devices such as personal data assistants (PDAs), Palm Pilots, portable telephones, products such as MobilePro produced by Sharp Corporation, etc. will find equal benefit with the features of the present invention.", col. 2, line 67-col. 3, line 12, "The Internet appliance 200 may be installed in a reasonable proximity to the user, preferably mounted flush to the wall or

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embodied in some other type of appliance such as a refrigerator, a stove, or any other common home appliance. The Internet appliance 200 described herein generally has no exposed keyboard or mouse, and relies on a touch screen 206, speakers 202, microphone 203, display 206, digital camera 201 and optional network connection 208 input and output. The absence of a touch screen 206, speakers 202, microphone 203, or digital camera 201 does not affect the fundamental operation of the present invention, but only affects the way data may be input or output.”)

Conclusion

Examiner's note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the Examiner.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ashok B. Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272-3972. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 am-4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan A. Flynn can be reached on (571) 272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Ashok B. Patel
Examiner
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